



# CITY OF TUCSON



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## NEWS RELEASE

Chris Magnus  
Chief of Police

**Contact:** Pete Dugan  
Sergeant / Public Information Office  
520-791-4852  
On-call PIO: [tpdpio@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:tpdpio@tucsonaz.gov)  
<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/police>

**Date:** 04/06/2016  
**TDD:** 791-2639

### FATAL VEHICLE COLLISION SOUTH 12<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE AND WEST 44<sup>TH</sup> STREET

On April 6, 2016, just before noon, a pedestrian was walking in the area of South 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue and West 44<sup>th</sup> Street when he noticed a vehicle that had apparently collided with a chain-link fence and a block wall on the northwest corner of the intersection. As the pedestrian got closer to the vehicle he observed the driver was still inside and appeared to be injured. He immediately called 911 to report the incident, but did not witness the actual collision take place.

Officers from Operations Division South responded to the intersection. Upon arrival, Tucson Fire was on scene rendering first-aid to the victim, however the victim was pronounced deceased shortly after their arrival.

Detectives from the Tucson Police Department's Traffic Investigations Unit responded to the scene to continue the investigation. They were able to determine that the vehicle (1996 Toyota Camry) had been traveling northbound on South 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue. As the vehicle approached West 44<sup>th</sup> Street, it crossed over the southbound lanes of traffic, ran through a chain-link fence surrounding a vacant lot and then collided with a block wall on the northwest corner of the intersection. At this time, it is unclear what caused the collision, but speed appears to have been a factor. Detectives spoke with citizens nearby who said they saw the vehicle there earlier in the morning, but thought it was a damaged vehicle that had been parked in that spot. At this time, there are no witnesses to the collision occurring.

The victim has been identified as 21-year-old Robert I. Martinez. Next of kin has been notified. Detectives are asking anyone who may have witnessed the collision to please call 88-CRIME.

#### Fatalities Year-To-Date:

For 2015 - 16  
Pedestrian - 4  
Bicycle - 1  
Motorcycle - 3

For 2016 - 9  
Pedestrian - 2  
Bicycle - 0  
Motorcycle - 3

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For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.

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